Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 184776
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SS-15 AF-10
SP-02 IO-13 DLOS-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01
SIG-03 MMO-01 HA-05 OES-09 TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02
SAA-01 /140 R

DRAFTED BY PM/DCA: MARIETTI:BDB
APPROVED BY PM/DCA: MPALMER
ACDA - JTWOMBLY
EUR/SOV - ABOHLEN
S/MS - CKAMMAN
NEA/RA - JCOUNTRYMAN
EA/RA - HHOROWITZ
AF/I - LSHURTLEFF
S/P - RBALL NSC-GSICK
IO/UNP -DADAMSON
----------015145 211834Z /46
O 211820Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
INDIAN OCEAN COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184776

BELGRADE: FOR JOHN GRAHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, XO

SUBJECT: STATUS OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS

REF: A. NEW DELHI 10718 B. NEW DELHI 10951
C. MOSCOW 16168
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 184776

1. DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF RECENT SOVIET ARTICLE IN "TASS" SUGGESTING THAT US RELUCTANCE TO SET DATE FOR NEXT ROUND OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS IS DUE TO ALLEGED DESIRE TO INCREASE US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA. "TASS" SPECIFICALLY CITED, INTER ALIA, PLANNED ANZUS NAVAL AND AIR EXERCISE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, SCHEDULED FOR THIS FALL.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SOVIETS HAVE USED SAME ARGUMENTS IN MAKING PRIVATE APPROACH
TO INDIANS, AND WE SUSPECT THEY MAY MAKE SIMILAR STATEMENTS
TO OTHER LITTORAL STATES.

2. ALTHOUGH DEPARTMENT DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN
PUBLIC PROPOGANDA BATTLE WITH THE SOVIETS, WE DO NOT WISH
TO LEAVE SUCH ALLEGATIONS UNCHALLENGED.

3. POSTS MAY THEREFORE DRAW ON FOLLOWING IF ASKED TO COMMENT
ON CURRENT STATUS OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS. YOU MAY ALSO
VOLUNTEER SUCH BRIEFING IF IT HAS COME TO YOUR ATTENTION

THAT SOVIETS ARE MAKING PRIVATE EFFORTS TO CONVINCE HOST
GOVERNMENT THAT US IS SEEKING MILITARY ADVANTAGE BY DE-
LAYING INDIAN OCEAN TALKS.

- -- AS PRESIDENT CARTER INDICATED IN HIS RECENT
ANNAPOLIS SPEECH, THE US REMAINS INTERESTED
IN REACHING AN INDIAN OCEAN ARMS LIMITATIONS
AGREEMENT. WE FEEL THIS WOULD BE IN THE
INTEREST OF ALL STATES CONCERNED.

- -- HOWEVER, RECENT SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN THE
INDIAN OCEAN AREA HAVE MADE IT DIFFICULT TO
ACHIEVE PROGRESS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- -- IN RECENT MONTHS THE SOVIETS HAVE SIGNIFI-
CANTLY INCREASED THEIR MILITARY PRESENCE AND
ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA WHILE THE US PRESENCE
HAS REMAINED THE SAME.

- -- FOR EXAMPLE, AS PART OF THEIR MILITARY IN-
VOLVEMENT ON THE HORN OF AFRICA, THE SOVIETS
HAVE NEARLY DOUBLED THE LEVEL OF THEIR NAVAL
FORCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THEIR FORCES
REMAINED AT A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER LEVEL FOR
NEARLY EIGHT MONTHS AND ONLY VERY RECENTLY
DECREASED TO THE PRE-BUILDUP LEVEL.

- -- THIS INCREASE TOOK PLACE, FURTHERMORE, WHILE
BOTH SIDES WERE CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS AIMED
AT PREVENTING THIS VERY KIND OF ACTION.

- -- DURING THE SAME PERIOD THE US REFRAINED FROM
INCREASING ITS OWN NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE AREA.

- -- DURING OUR LAST INDIAN OCEAN MEETING WITH THE
SOVIETS IN FEBRUARY, WE RAISED OUR CONCERNS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

OVER THEIR FORCE BUILDUP. THE SOVIETS SIMPLY
DISMISSED THIS.

- -- WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THE SOVIETS THAT THEIR
RECENT ACTIVITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA
HAVE CREATED A SITUATION WHICH MAKES IT DIF-
FICULT AT THIS T ME TO CO L TE AN-AG EE NT
AND TO GET THE REQUISITE US PUBLIC SUPPORT.

- -- DESPITE THE RECORD OF SOVIET FORCE BUILDUPS,
RECENT SOVIET STATEMENTS ON THIS ISSUE SEEM
AIMED AT OBTAINING A PROPOGANDA ADVANTAGE BY
SUGGESTING THAT THE US SEEKS TO DELAY THE TALKS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

IN ORDER TO INCREASE ITS OWN MILITARY ACTI-
VITIES. THIS IS PATENTLY FALSE.

- -- THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP THE
SITUATION UNDER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.

4. IF ASKED TO COMMENT ON SPECIFIC SOVIET ACCUSATIONS,
POSTS MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING:

- -- THE ANZUS EXERCISE OFF WESTERN AUSTRALIA PLANNED
FOR THIS FALL IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE
US POSITION IN THE TALKS. WE MADE IT CLEAR
IN THE TALKS THAT THE US PERIODICALLY CONDUCTS
SUCH EXERCISES WITH CERTAIN LITTORAL STATES,
AND THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO UNDER
AN INDIAN OCEAN AGREEMENT. THE SOVIETS DID
NOT OBJECT TO THIS STATEMENT.

- -- US COMMITMENT TO DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH
AUSTRALIA IS NOT LIMITED TO PORTIONS OF THE
AUSTRALIAN LANDMASS BORDERING ON THE PACIFIC.
ANZUS EXERCISES ON THE INDIAN OCEAN SIDE OF
AUSTRALIA ARE NOT A NEW EXTENSION OF ANZUS.

- -- US CONSTRUCTION PLANS ON DIEGO GARCIA ARE
PUBLICLY KNOWN. UNDER A STABILIZATION AGREE-
MENT, THE US WOULD NOT EXPAND DIEGO GARCIA
BEYOND THE CURRENT, MODEST CONSTRUCTION
PROGRAM.

- -- THE CURRENT PRESENCE OF A US CARRIER TASK
GROUP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN IS CONSISTENT
WITH OUR ROUTINE PATTERN OF PERIODIC
CONFIDENTIAL

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPLOYMENTS.

5. FOR NEW DELHI: YOU SHOULD MAKE ABOVE POINTS, WHICH BUILD ON AMBASSADOR'S RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GOI OFFICIALS, TO GOI AND INDICATE THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDIAN EFFORTS TO AVOID ONE-SIDED LANGUAGE CONCERNING THE INDIAN OCEAN DURING THE BELGRADE NAM MEETING.

6. FOR BELGRADE: GRAHAM MAY DRAW ON ABOVE POINTS AS APPROPRIATE. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /018 R

66011
DRAFTED BY PM/DCA:MARIETTI
APPROVED BY PM/DCA:MPALMER
----------052295 251930Z /45
O 251905Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184776

FOR MR GELB

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 184776 ACTION BELGRADE NEW DELHI INDIAN OCEAN COLLECTIVE JULY 21.

QUOTE O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184776

BELGRADE: FOR JOHN GRAHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, XO

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SUBJECT: STATUS OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS

REF: A. NEW DELHI 10718 B. NEW DELHI 10951
C. MOSCOW 16168

1. DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF RECENT SOVIET ARTICLE IN "TASS" SUGGESTING THAT US RELUCTANCE TO SET DATE FOR NEXT ROUND OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS IS DUE TO ALLEGED DESIRE TO INCREASE US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA. "TASS" SPE-
CIFICALLY CITED, INTER ALIA, PLANNED ANZUS NAVAL AND AIR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 184776

EXERCISE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, SCHEDULED FOR THIS FALL. SOVIETS HAVE USED SAME ARGUMENTS IN MAKING PRIVATE APPROACH TO INDIANS, AND WE SUSPECT THEY MAY MAKE SIMILAR STATEMENTS TO OTHER LITTORAL STATES.

2. ALTHOUGH DEPARTMENT DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN PUBLIC PROPOGANDA BATTLE WITH THE SOVIETS, WE DO NOT WISH TO LEAVE SUCH ALLEGATIONS UNCHALLENGED.

3. POSTS MAY THEREFORE DRAW ON FOLLOWING IF ASKED TO COMMENT ON CURRENT STATUS OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS. YOU MAY ALSO VOLUNTEER SUCH BRIEFING IF IT HAS COME TO YOUR ATTENTION

THAT SOVIETS ARE MAKING PRIVATE EFFORTS TO CONVINCE HOST GOVERNMENT THAT US IS SEEKING MILITARY ADVANTAGE BY DE-
LAYING INDIAN OCEAN TALKS.

- -- AS PRESIDENT CARTER INDICATED IN HIS RECENT ANNAPOLIS SPEECH, THE US REMAINS INTERESTED IN REACHING AN INDIAN OCEAN ARMS LIMITATIONS AGREEMENT. WE FEEL THIS WOULD BE IN THE INTEREST OF ALL STATES CONCERNED.

- -- HOWEVER, RECENT SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA HAVE MADE IT DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS.

- -- IN RECENT MONTHS THE SOVIETS HAVE SIGNIFI-
CANTLY INCREASED THEIR MILITARY PRESENCE AND ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA WHILE THE US PRESENCE HAS REMAINED THE SAME.

- -- FOR EXAMPLE, AS PART OF THEIR MILITARY IN-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 184776

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

VOLVEMENT ON THE HORN OF AFRICA, THE SOVIETS
HAVE NEARLY DOUBLED THE LEVEL OF THEIR NAVAL
FORCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THEIR FORCES
REMAINED AT A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER LEVEL FOR
NEARLY EIGHT MONTHS AND ONLY VERY RECENTLY
DECREASED TO THE PRE-BUILDUP LEVEL.

- -- THIS INCREASE TOOK PLACE, FURTHERMORE, WHILE
BOTH SIDES WERE CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS AIMED
AT PREVENTING THIS VERY KIND OF ACTION.

- -- DURING THE SAME PERIOD THE US REFRAINED FROM
INCREASING ITS OWN NAVAL PRESENCE IN THE AREA.

- -- DURING OUR LAST INDIAN OCEAN MEETING WITH THE
SOVIETS IN FEBRUARY, WE RAISED OUR CONCERNS
OVER THEIR FORCE BUILDUP. THE SOVIETS SIMPLY
DISMISSED THIS.

- -- WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THE SOVIETS THAT THEIR
RECENT ACTIVITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA
HAVE CREATED A SITUATION WHICH MAKES IT DIF-
FICULT AT THIS T ME TO CO L TE AN-AG EE NT
AND TO GET THE REQUISITE US PUBLIC SUPPORT.

- -- DESPITE THE RECORD OF SOVIET FORCE BUILDUPS,
RECENT SOVIET STATEMENTS ON THIS ISSUE SEEM
AIMED AT OBTAINING A PROPOGANDA ADVANTAGE BY
SUGGESTING THAT THE US SEEKS TO DELAY THE TALKS

IN ORDER TO INCREASE ITS OWN MILITARY ACTI-
VITIES. THIS IS PATENTLY FALSE.

- -- THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP THE
SITUATION UNDER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

4. IF ASKED TO COMMENT ON SPECIFIC SOVIET ACCUSATIONS,
POSTS MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING:

- -- THE ANZUS EXERCISE OFF WESTERN AUSTRALIA PLANNED
FOR THIS FALL IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE
US POSITION IN THE TALKS. WE MADE IT CLEAR
IN THE TALKS THAT THE US PERIODICALLY CONDUCTS
SUCH EXERCISES WITH CERTAIN LITTORAL STATES,
AND THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO UNDER
AN INDIAN OCEAN AGREEMENT. THE SOVIETS DID
NOT OBJECT TO THIS STATEMENT.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

- -- US COMMITMENT TO DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH AUSTRALIA IS NOT LIMITED TO PORTIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN LANDMASS BORDERING ON THE PACIFIC. ANZUS EXERCISES ON THE INDIAN OCEAN SIDE OF AUSTRALIA ARE NOT A NEW EXTENSION OF ANZUS.

- -- US CONSTRUCTION PLANS ON DIEGO GARCIA ARE PUBLICLY KNOWN. UNDER A STABILIZATION AGREEMENT, THE US WOULD NOT EXPAND DIEGO GARCIA BEYOND THE CURRENT, MODEST CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.

- -- THE CURRENT PRESENCE OF A US CARRIER TASK GROUP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR ROUTINE PATTERN OF PERIODIC DEPLOYMENTS.

5. FOR NEW DELHI: YOU SHOULD MAKE ABOVE POINTS, WHICH BUILD ON AMBASSADOR'S RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GOI OFFICIALS, TO GOI AND INDICATE THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDIAN EFFORTS TO AVOID ONE-SIDED LANGUAGE CONCERNING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 184776

THE INDIAN OCEAN DURING THE BELGRADE NAM MEETING.

6. FOR BELGRADE: GRAHAM MAY DRAW ON ABOVE POUKVE POINTS AS APPROPRIATE. VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, OCEANS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE184776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MARIETTI:BDB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780300-0653
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780733/aaaabbir.tel
Line Count: 364
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4ede146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NEW DELHI 10718, 78 MOSCOW 16168
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1924376
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF INDIAN OCEAN TALKS
TAGS: PARM, XO
To: BELGRADE NEW DELHI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4ede146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014